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Ransom Deal Boosts U.S. -- Donovan

COLUMBUS, Ohio -- (AP)

The drugs for Cuban prisoners deal he engineered boosted U.S. prestige tremendously in



Cuba and in Latin America as a whole, New York Attorney James B. Donovan says.

Donovan addressed the 83rd Ohio State Bar Association meeting here.

DONOVAN "For four years," Donovan said, "the Cuban people have been told to hate Americans. But now in their drug stores there are millions of medicines labeled 'Made in USA.'"

He said it is impossible to erase the U.S. markings on each bottle or package, and that the markings include American flags on some products and "gift of American people to Cuban people" on the product contributed by one manufacturer.

He said the propaganda value is "worth 50 Voice of America broadcasts in a day" and the exchange was "far less expensive and achieved superior results than the so-called tractors for freedom plan would have achieved."

Donovan, who also negotiated the dramatic prisoner swap with the Soviet Union of Communist Spy Rudolph Abel for Pilot Gary Powers, said he now trying to re-establish his law practice. He said his unsuccessful candidacy for the U.S. Senate in the Democratic ticket in the last election was based on a draft by his friends and that he has no political aspirations now.

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